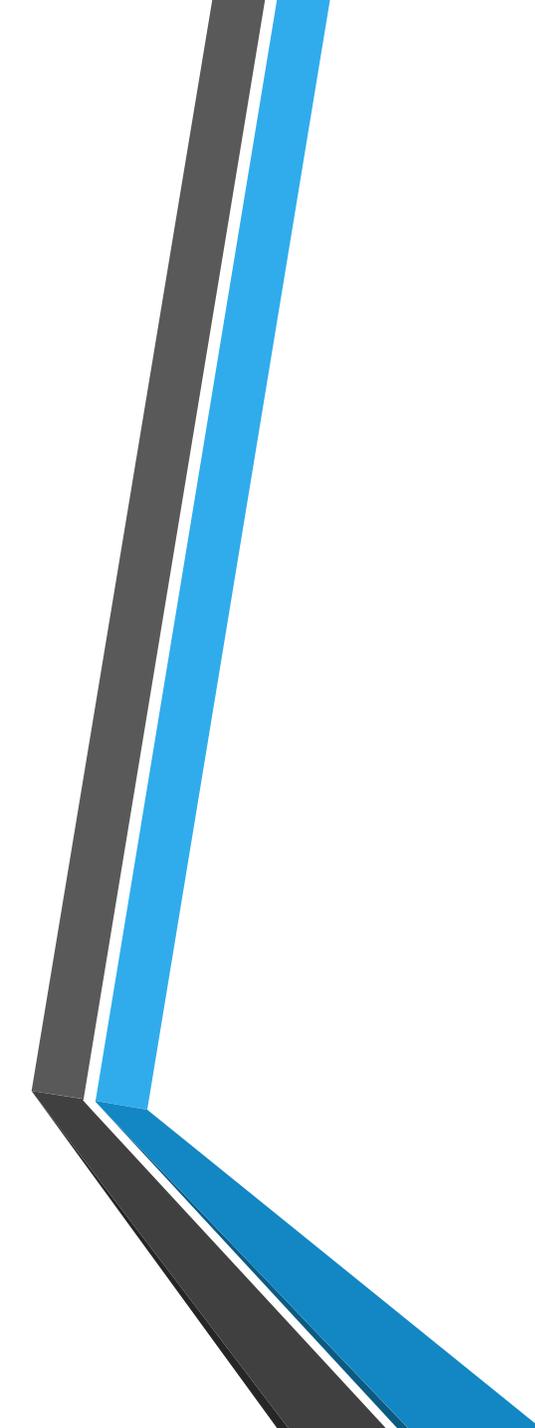




# Recreational Trails Program

FY 2024

- 
- Program Updates
  - General Program Eligibility
    - Application Process
    - Open Discussion and Questions and Answers



# Program Updates

ESTIMATED FUNDS  
AVAILABLE FOR RTP

APPROXIMATELY  
\$1,600,000.00

Maximum Grant-Non-  
motorized (varies by trail type  
and activity)

\$200,000.00 -  
\$400,000.00

Maximum Grant-Motorized

\$524,937.00

Federal Share

80%

Allowable Matching Source

Cash and/or In-kind

FY 2024 Application Due Date

12 Noon, September 06,  
2023

Project Selection Process

Competitive

# Program Information

The RTP was created in 1998 to assist in acquiring, developing, and/or improving trail and trail related resources. The funds are appropriated by Congress to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and FHWA allocates the funds through state agencies as a grants program to subrecipients.



All forms &  
information  
available at:

[www.adeca.alabama.gov/trails/](http://www.adeca.alabama.gov/trails/)

# General Program Eligibility



# Eligible Applicants

All applicants must be currently registered in SAM.gov with a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Applications from project sponsors not meeting this criterion will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed. Eligible applicants include:

- Local Governments
- State Agencies
- Federal Agencies

# Maximum Grant Size

- The maximum grant amount is:
  - \$200,000 for non-motorized, single-use trail activities
  - \$400,000 for non-motorized, diverse-use trail activities
  - \$524,937 for motorized, diverse-use trail activities
  - \$87,489 for educational projects which promote safety and environmental protection
- At least 30 percent of Alabama's RTP funds must be used for motorized trail uses, at least 30 percent for non-motorized trail uses, and at least 40 percent for diverse trail uses. Diverse motorized projects (such as ATV and motorcycle use) or diverse non-motorized projects (such as pedestrian and equestrian use) may satisfy two of these categories at the same time. The State encourages applicants to consider projects that benefit both motorized and non-motorized users, such as common trailhead facilities.

# Matching Requirement

- The Federal share for the RTP is up to 80% of the total eligible project costs up to the grant ceiling. The non-Federal share (at least 20% or the remaining project cost) may come from state, local, and/or private sources.
  - Other Federal shares cannot be used as a source of match unless specific legislation allows funds to be used for the matching share.
- Federal agency applicants and applicants wishing to use other Federal funds to match the RTP funds should contact Recreation Programs' staff prior to applying.



# Permissible Uses



Construction of new recreational trails

Maintenance and  
restoration of  
existing  
recreational trails





Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities (may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Drainage, 2) Crossings, 3) Stabilization, 4) Parking, 5) Signage, 6) Controls, 7) Shelters, and 8) Water, Sanitary, and Access Facilities) and trail linkages for recreational trails

Provision of features  
which facilitate the access  
and use of trails by  
persons with disabilities



Acquisition of easements and fee simple title to property for recreational trails or recreational trails corridors identified in a state trail plan

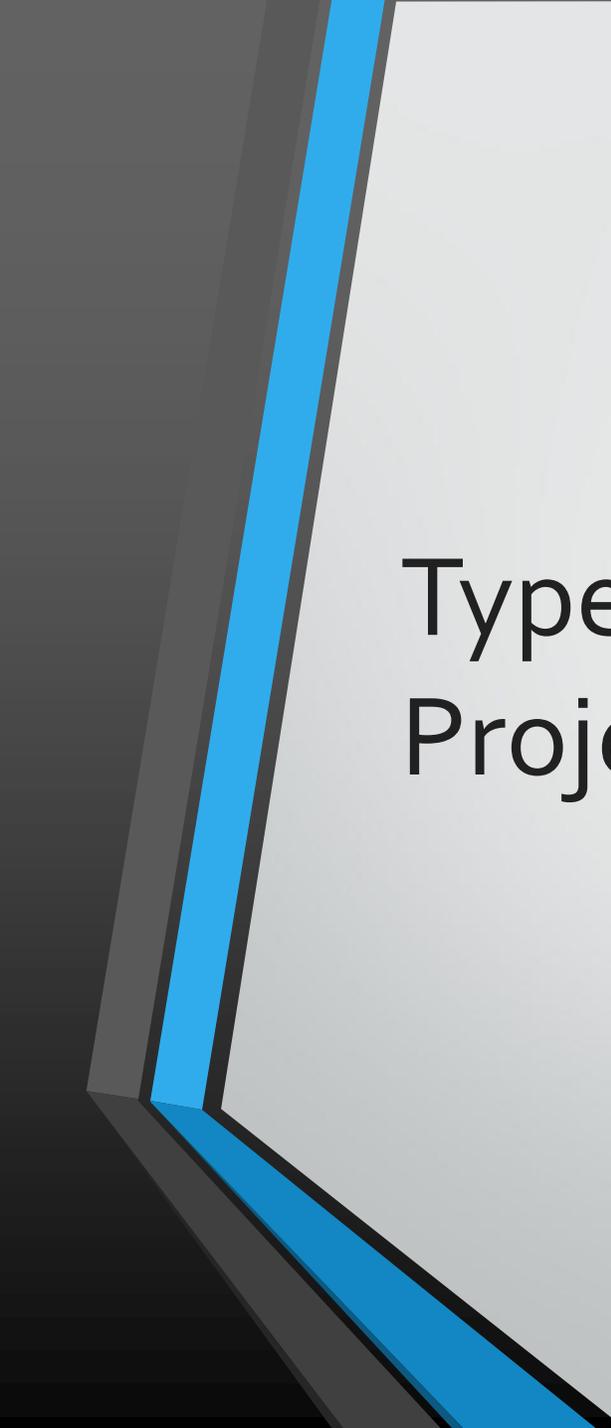


The assessment of trail conditions for accessibility and maintenance



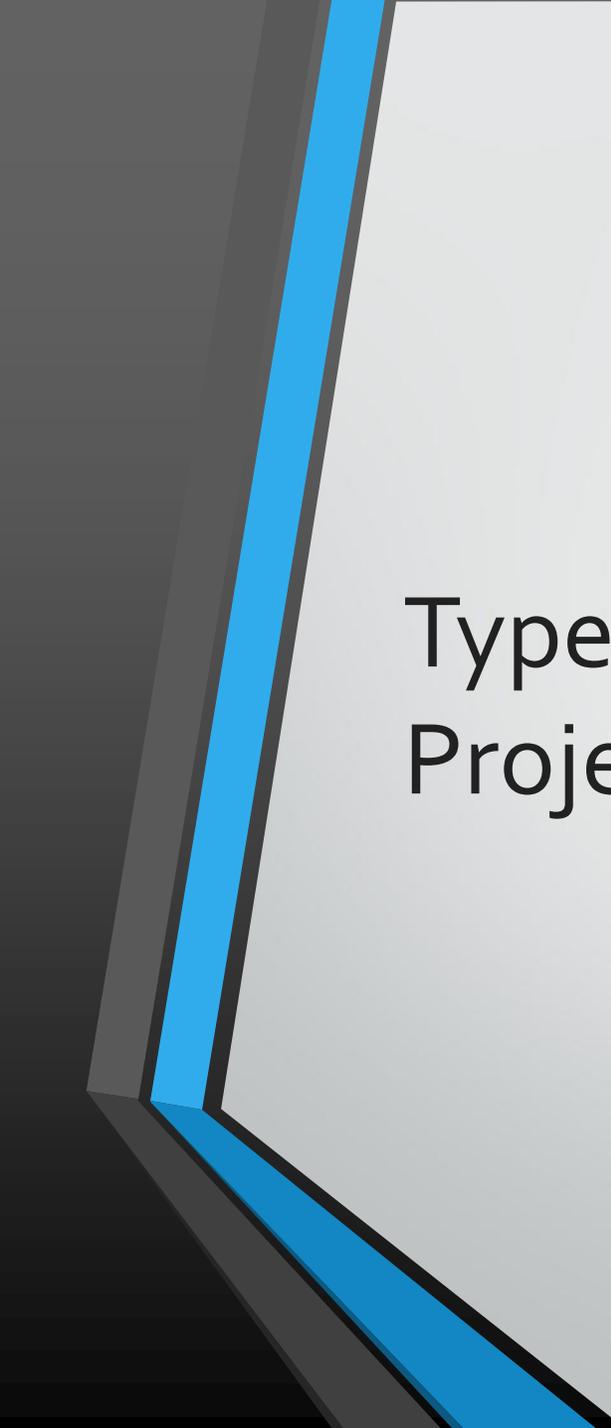
Development and dissemination of publications and the operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection related to recreational trails





# Types of Trail Projects

- Non – Motorized for a Single Use
  - Intended to benefit only one mode of non-motorized recreational trail use such as pedestrian only or equestrian only
  - Includes trailhead and trailside improvements for non-motorized, single use trails (such as lighting)
  - Maximum Federal Share: \$200,000.00
- Non – Motorized for Diverse Use
  - Intended to benefit more than one mode of non-motorized recreational trail use such as walking, skating, and bicycling; pedestrian and equestrian use; equestrian and bicycle use; etc.
  - Maximum Federal Share: \$400,000.00



## Types of Trail Projects

- Motorized for Diverse Use
  - Intended to benefit more than one mode of motorized recreational use such as motorcycle and ATV use; ATV and 4x4 OHV (truck) use; etc.
  - May be classified in this category if the project also benefits some non-motorized uses (it is not necessary to exclude non-motorized uses), but the primary intent must be for the benefit of motorized use
  - Maximum Federal Share: \$524,937.00

# Types of Trail Projects

- Educational Projects
  - Intended to benefit groups disseminating educational publications and operating educational programs which promote safety and environmental protection
  - Typical education projects may include:
    - Development and operation of trail safety education programs
    - Development and operation of trail-related environmental education programs
    - Development and delivery of training on trail accessibility and sustainability
    - Production of trail-related educational materials, including information displays in print, video, audio, interactive computer displays, etc.
  - Maximum Federal Share: \$87,489.00

Interested parties MUST consult with ADECA's Recreation Programs' staff PRIOR to submitting an educational grant application.

# Thresholds

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Prospective applicants are not eligible to apply if:

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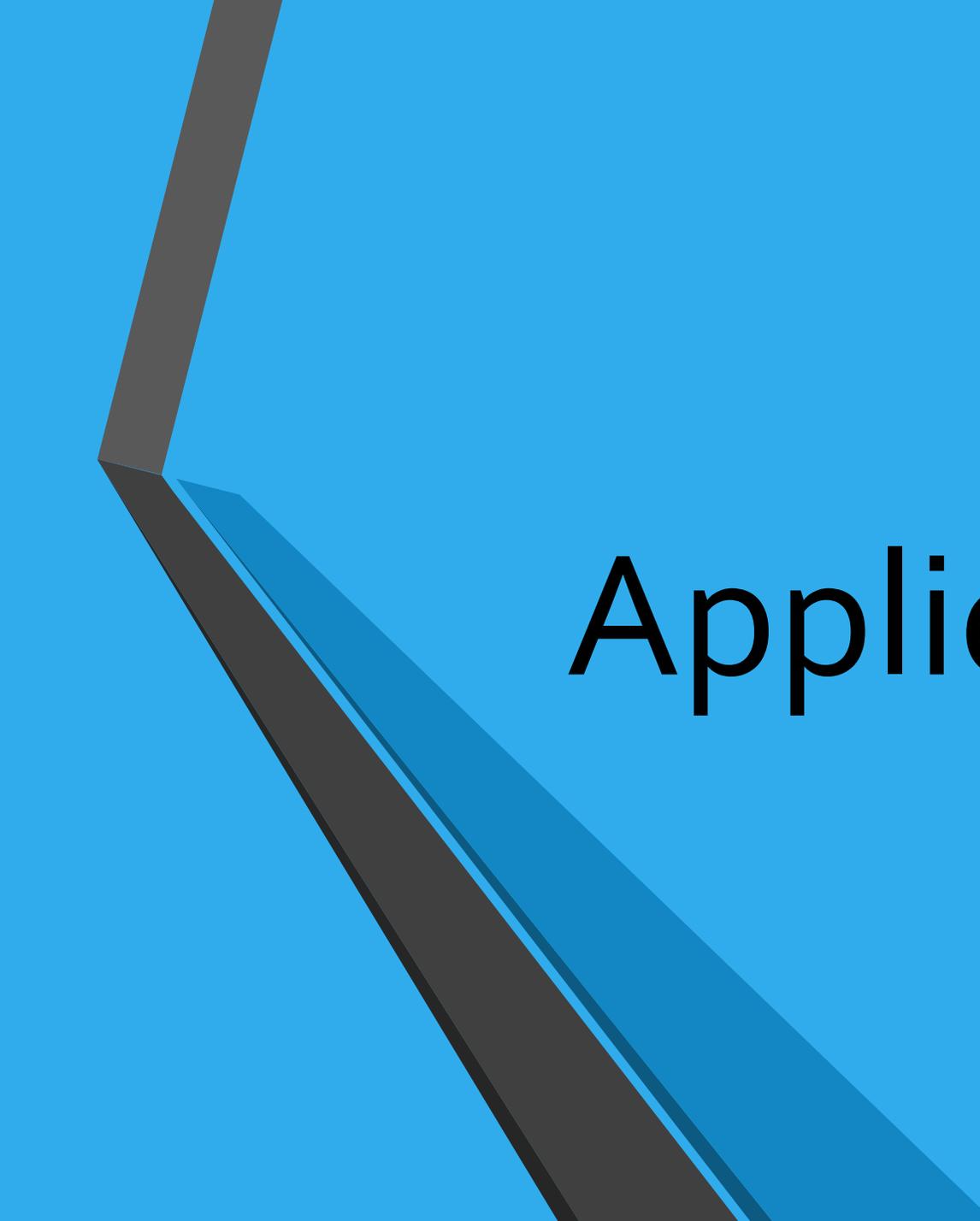
The entity has an open Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) or RTP grant as of September 06, 2023

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The entity has unresolved compliance issues from a previous LWCF or RTP grant

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The entity did not respond in writing to a LWCF or RTP inspection report which contained deficiencies and the entity has not obtained approval of a Correction Action Plan for previous compliance issues



# Application Process

# Application Checklist

Application  
Cover  
Sheet

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Applicant's Information

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Project Information

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Project Location

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District Information

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Contact Information

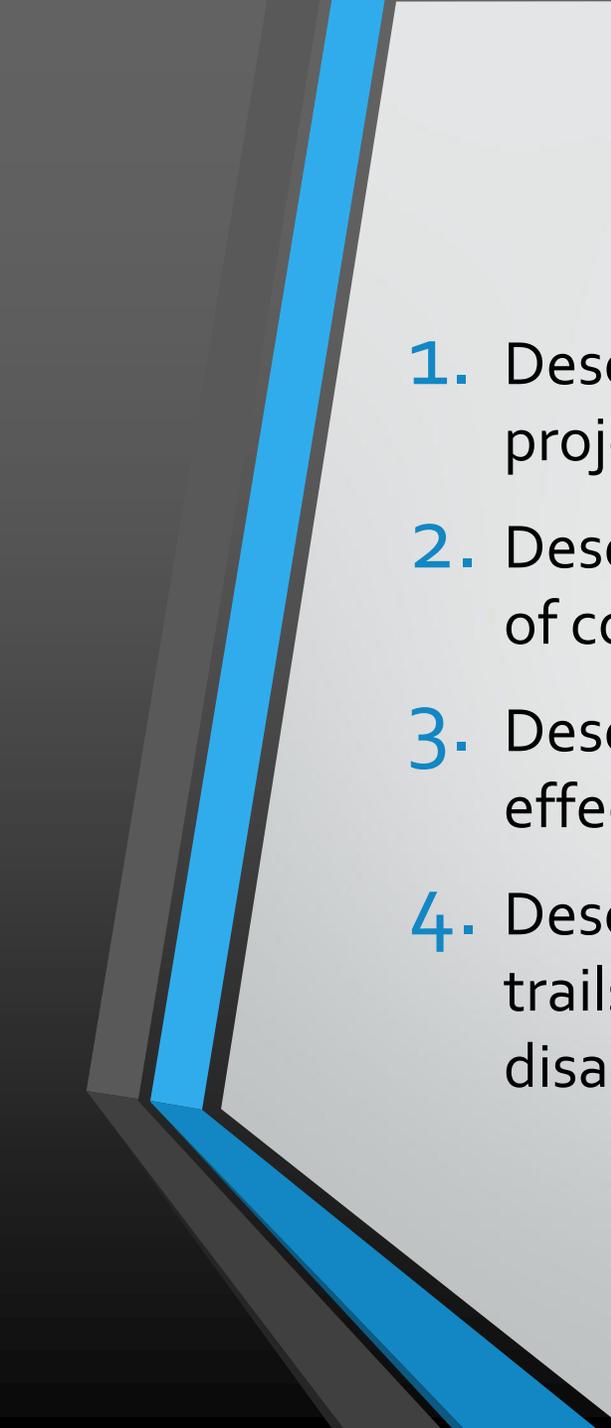


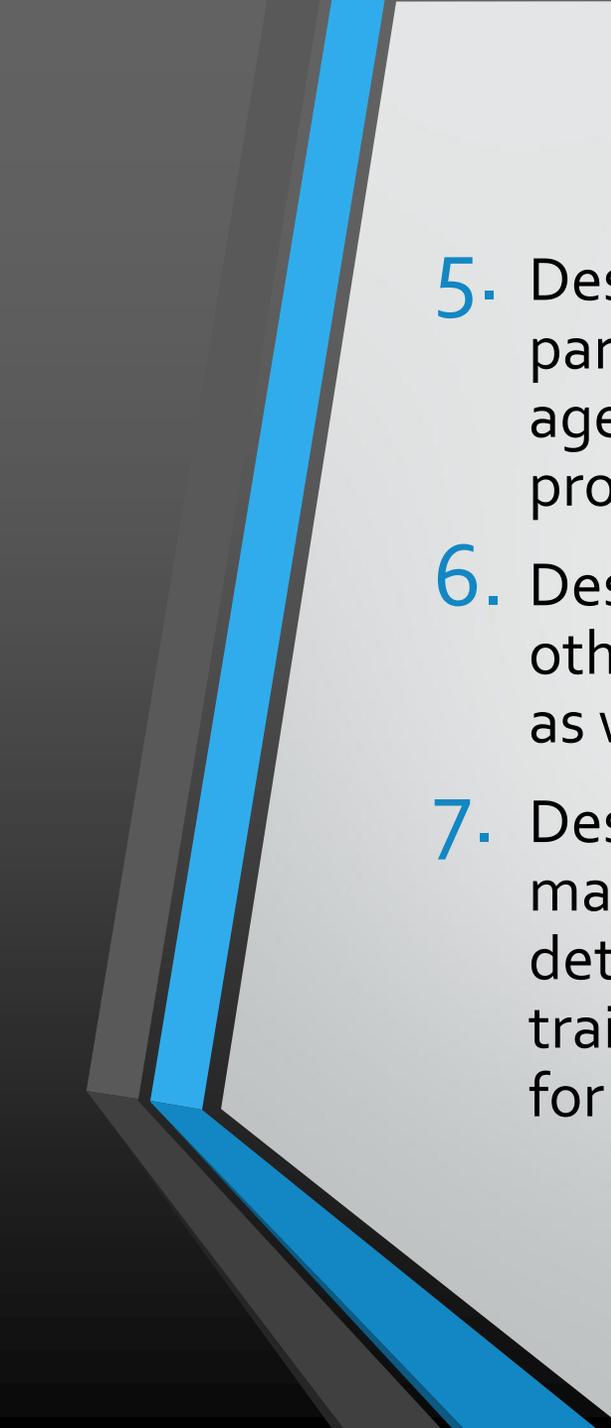
# Project Information

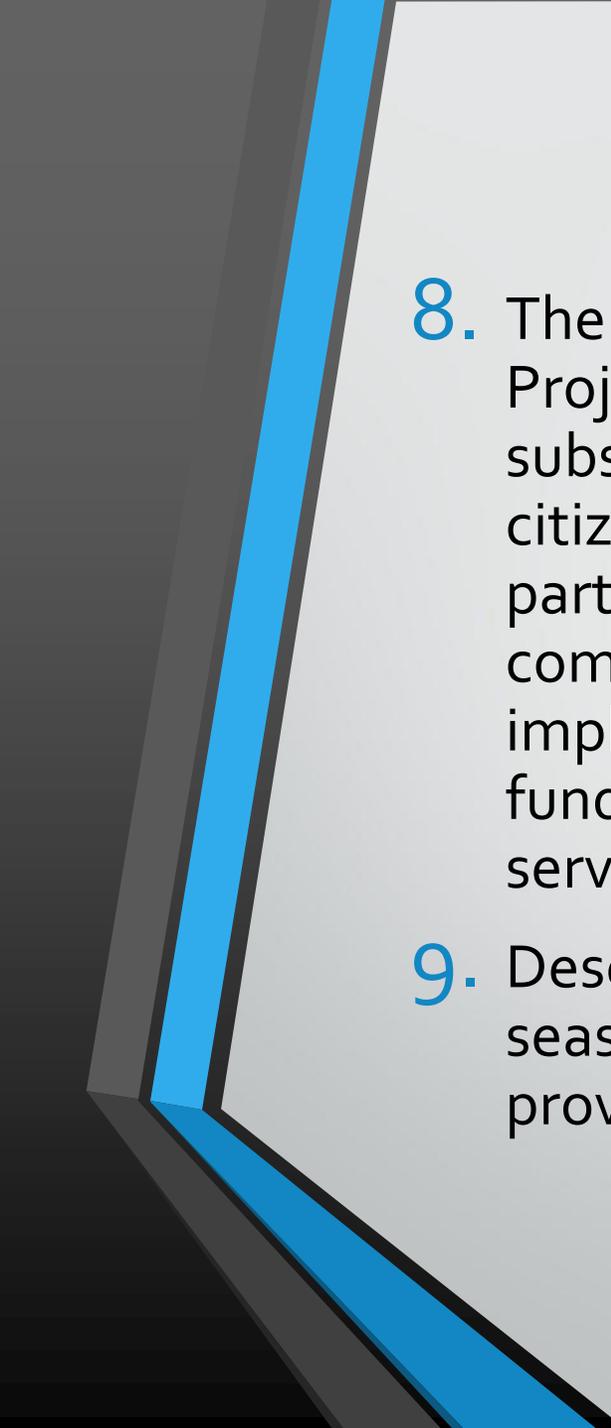
- Name of the Project
- Length of Trail (lf)
- Width of Trail
- Trail Surface Type
- Application Type (motorized, educational, etc.)
- Type of Applicant
- Project Costs
- Brief Project Description

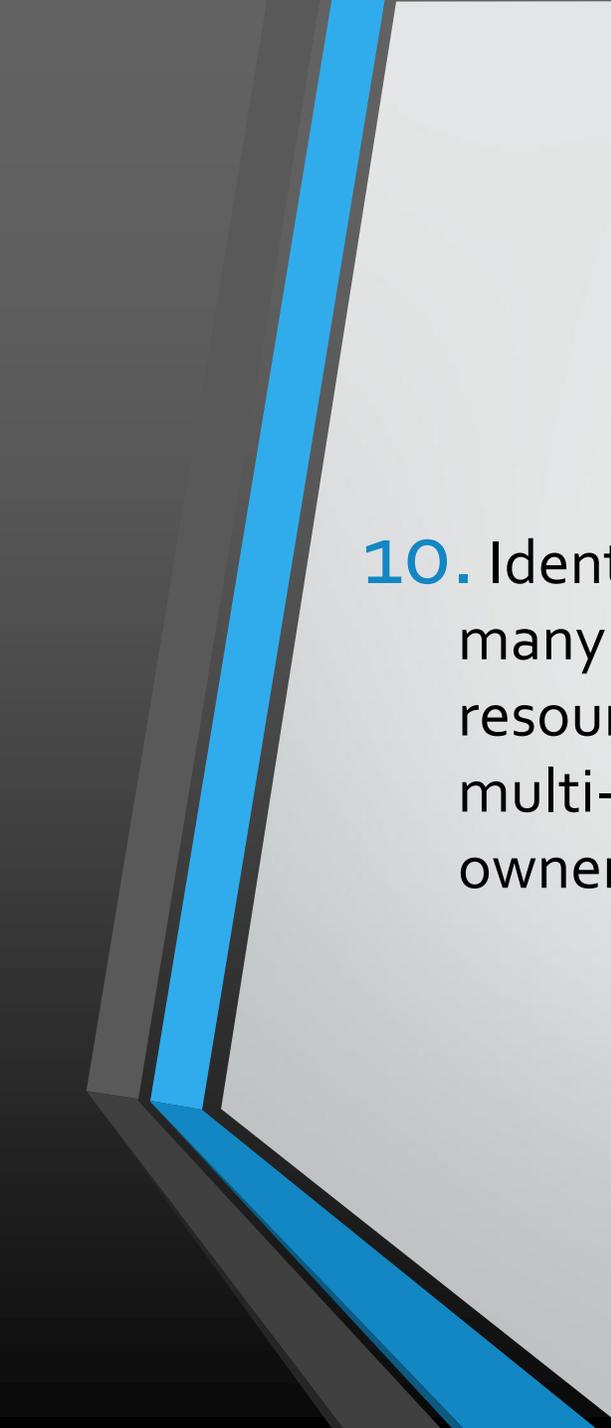


# Application Evaluation Criteria

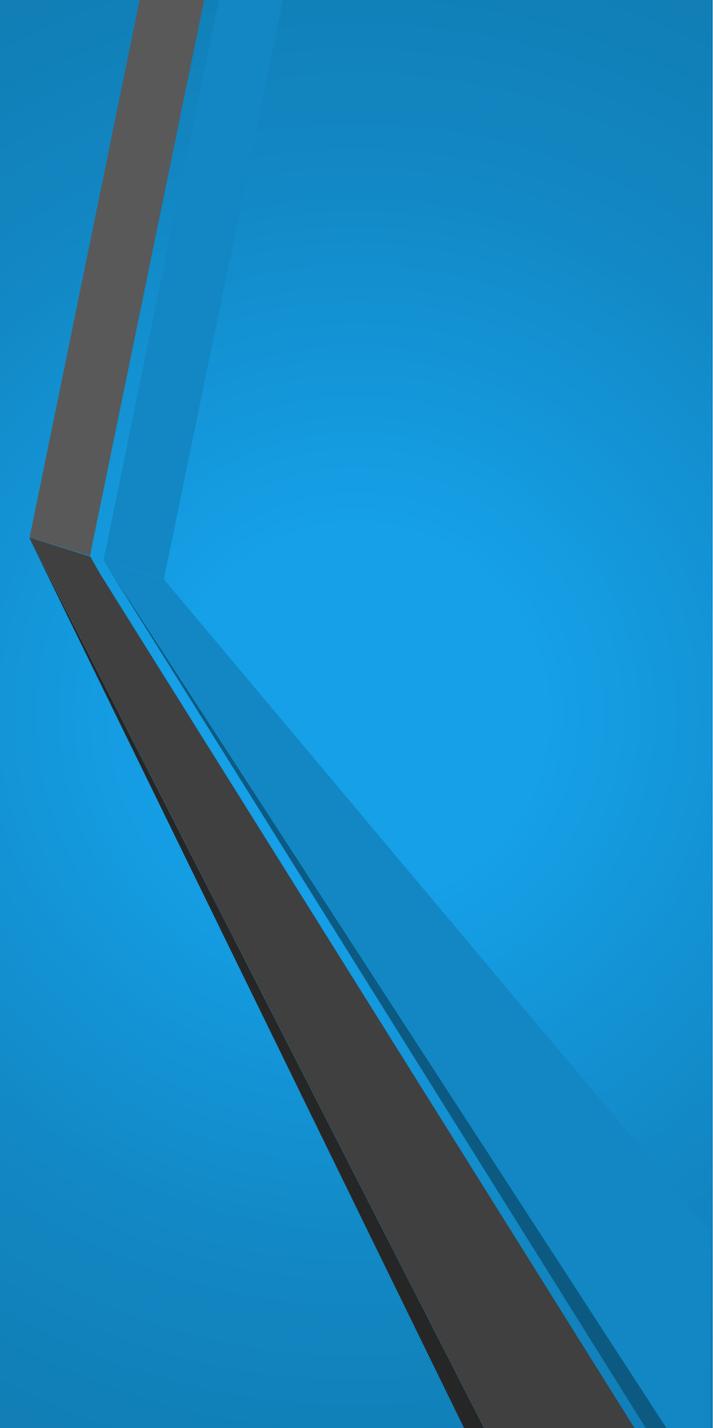
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1. Describe the degree to which the project's scope and feasibility meet the project area's recreational needs.
  2. Describe the ways in which the project provides for the greatest number of compatible recreational purposes.
  3. Describe the ways in which the project provides a new, unique, or more effective means for making trail opportunities available to the public.
  4. Describe the ways in which the project facilitates the access and use of trails by persons with disabilities, older adults, economically disadvantaged, and other special populations or groups.

- 
5. Describe the ways in which the project creates opportunities for new partnerships between trail users, private interest groups, and public agencies within the project area. Describe the ways in which the project provides for the greatest number of compatible recreational purposes.
  6. Describe the ways in which the project uses the grant funds to leverage other public or private investments (in the form of services and materials as well as dollars).
  7. Describe the degree of commitment to continue operation and maintenance of the project. Include an operation and maintenance plan detailing the amount of money needed to operate and maintain the trail/facility after project completion and identify who will be responsible for these activities.

- 
8. The degree to which community involvement is addressed: i.e., (A) Project idea originated with trail users or a community group that has substantial knowledge, and (B) The private sector (including individual citizens, community groups, and/or local business enterprises) has participated in the development of the proposed idea and has made commitments of labor, money, or materials to support project implementation. Describe the ways in which the project uses the grant funds to leverage other public or private investments (in the form of services and materials as well as dollars).
  9. Describe in detail how the trail will be managed. Include a discussion on season length, hours of operation, limitations on use, enforcement provisions, and scheduling.



**10.** Identify and describe the service area of the project. Approximately how many people do you propose to serve with this project? Identify other trail resources in the service area by trail type (motorized, non-motorized, multi-use), distance, location in relation to the proposed trail, and ownership.



# Project Cost Estimate

# Project Cost Estimate



ACQUISITION



CONSTRUCTION  
CONTRACTS



EQUIPMENT  
RENTAL



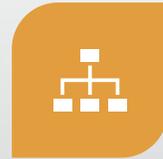
LABOR



SIGNAGE



SUPPLIES/MATERIALS



ADMINISTRATION



ENGINEERING



# Environmental Screening Form

# Environmental Resources

- No Impacts or Not Applicable
- Negligible Impacts
- Minor Impacts
- Impacts Exceed Minor (*EA/EIS required*)
- More Data Needed to Determine (*EA/EIS required*)

Mandatory  
Criteria and  
Categorical  
Exclusion

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Yes

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No

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To be determined

# Environmental Reviewers

Provided input in the completion of the environmental screening form

- Name
- Title
- Agency
- Field of Expertise

Conducted a site inspection to verify field conditions

- Name of Inspector(s)
- Title
- Agency
- Date(s) of Inspection

Signature of Chief Elected Official

# Environmental Checklist

- Project Information
- Applicant Information
- Concurrence Documentation
- Property Information



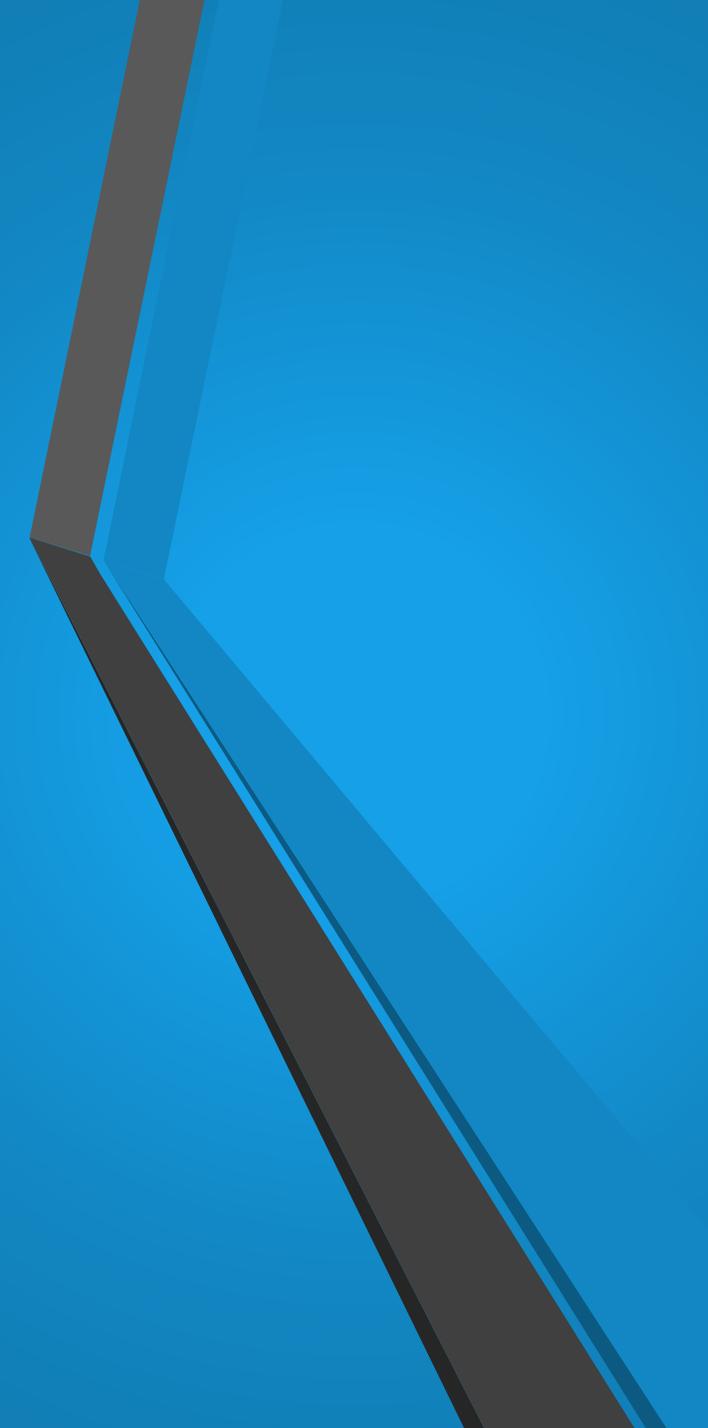
# Categorical Exclusion Form

# Proposed Timeline

- 12 Noon, Wednesday, September 06, 2023
  - Applications (1 digital copy) due to ADECA
- September - December 2023
  - Recreation Programs' staff and the Alabama Recreational Trails Advisory Board review applications for priority rankings based on evaluation criterion, make recommendations for funding to the ADECA Director, complete site inspections, and forward copies of the selected applications to the FHWA
- January - March 2024
  - Applicants will be notified



# Application Submission Instructions



**DEADLINE – 12 Noon on Wednesday,  
September 06, 2023**

Emailed to: [latoya.edwards@adeca.alabama.gov](mailto:latoya.edwards@adeca.alabama.gov) and  
[crystal.talley@adeca.alabama.gov](mailto:crystal.talley@adeca.alabama.gov)

Recommend a read receipt on your email or check with  
ADECA to make sure they have it.

**DEADLINE**  
12 Noon on  
Wednesday,  
September  
06, 2023

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Only need one copy

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Mailed to:

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ADECA

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FIR Division – Recreational Trails Program

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Attention: Ms. LaToya Edwards

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Post Office Box 5690

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Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5690

**DEADLINE**  
12 Noon on  
Wednesday,  
September  
06, 2023

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Only need one copy

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Delivered to:

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ADECA

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FIR Division – Recreational Trails Program

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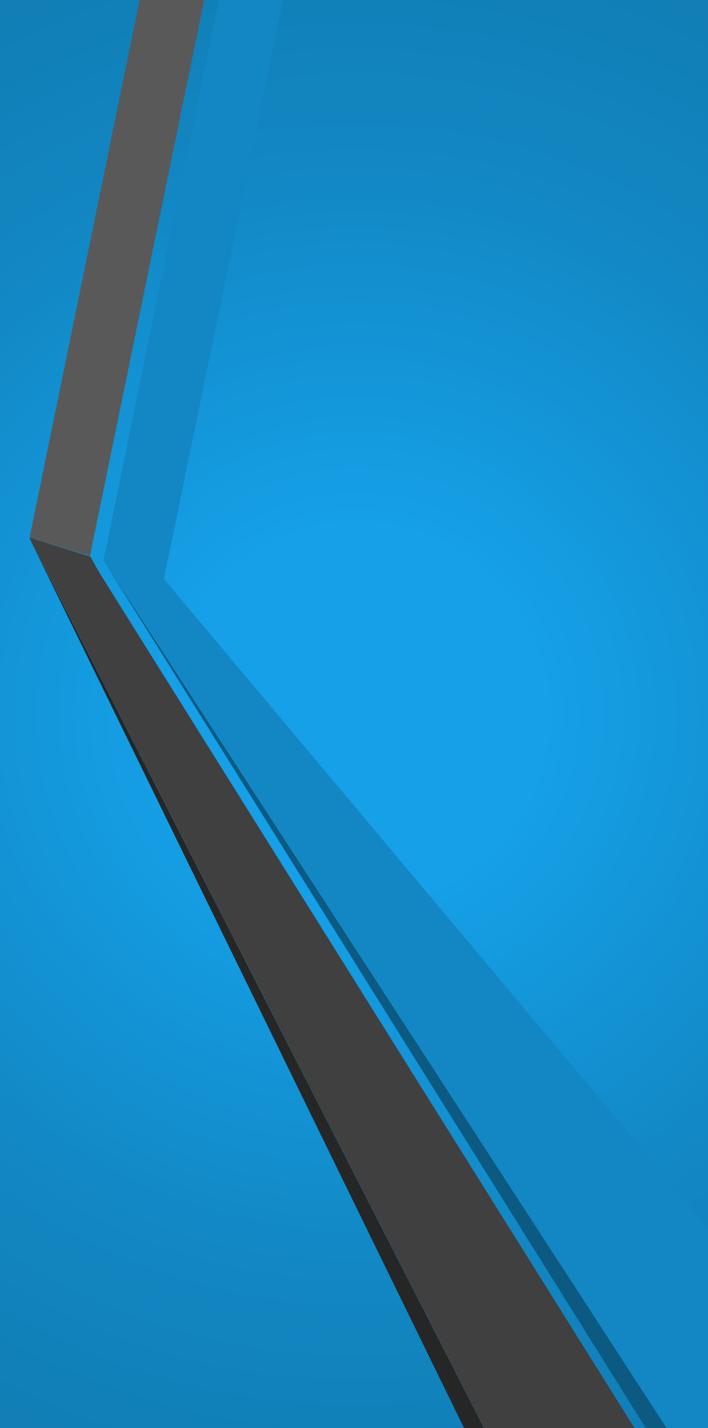
Attention: Ms. LaToya Edwards

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401 Adams Avenue, Room 410

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Montgomery, Alabama 36104



Regardless of the submission method chosen, the application must be received by the FIR Division by the time and date above. Applications received on September 06, 2023, will be time-stamped upon receipt.

# State Contacts

Crystal G. Talley  
FIR Division Chief  
[crystal.talley@adeca.alabama.gov](mailto:crystal.talley@adeca.alabama.gov)  
(334) 353-2630

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RTP & LWCF Programs Manager  
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(334) 242-5382

Nora Mays  
LWCF Programs Specialist  
[nora.mays@adeca.alabama.gov](mailto:nora.mays@adeca.alabama.gov)  
(334) 242-5612



# Open Discussion

## Questions and Answers